

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference I10510WO234	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No. PCT/IB2004/001051	International filing date (day/month/year) 24/03/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 27/03/2003
Applicant I.M.A. INDUSTRIA MACCHINE AUTOMATICHE S.P.A.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 03 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

International Application No
PCT/IB2004/001051

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B67B3/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B67B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 295 09 760 U (LANGE GMBH DR BRUNO) 17 August 1995 (1995-08-17) page 19, line 26 - line 28 page 20, line 22 - line 26 page 22, line 3 - page 24, line 14; figures 10,11	1-8
X	US 5 321 935 A (SPATZ GUENTER ET AL) 21 June 1994 (1994-06-21) column 4, line 62 - column 6, line 50; figure	1-8
X	US 6 105 343 A (GROVE MICHAEL A ET AL) 22 August 2000 (2000-08-22) column 5, line 36 - line 58; figures 1,2	1,2,4-8

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Wartenhorst, F

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2004/001051

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 29509760	U	17-08-1995	DE 9410822 U1	03-11-1994
			DE 29509760 U1	17-08-1995
			DE 19521924 A1	18-01-1996
US 5321935	A	21-06-1994	DE 4011398 A1	10-10-1991
			AT 112536 T	15-10-1994
			WO 9115422 A1	17-10-1991
			EP 0524196 A1	27-01-1993
			ES 2066427 T3	01-03-1995
			KR 9709389 B1	12-06-1997
US 6105343	A	22-08-2000	NONE	